

approach, not exclusive to the recent COVID-19 pandemic, dates back to the 19th century.

Regular wastewater surveillance, combined with other indicators, proved highly effective in COVID-19 pandemic management, aiding decision-making, particularly during periods with limited testing. This success led to some countries formally incorporating wastewater surveillance into their national strategies for COVID-19 prevention and control.

While the maturity of pathogens detection in wastewater varies globally, ongoing efforts aim to establish a standardized global surveillance system.

I would like to share our expertise and recent advancements, confident they will significantly impact Portugal's progress toward sustainable water and Public Health management.

## Elisabete Valério

**Environmental Quality and Human** Health, CE3C. Ciências ULisboa









